# Michigan Deptartment of Treasury 496 (2-04) Auditing Procedures Report

Local Govern	nment Type	nship	□Village	√Other	Local Governme		ıd Commissio	on	Count		
Audit Date 12/31/04			Opinion 4/19	n Date		1	ntant Report Submitt				
We have a	audited the with the	e S	nancial state tatements o	ments of this	nmental Accou	governmen unting Stan	t and rendered dards Board (0 gan by the Michi	GASB) and th	ne Uniform	Repor	nts prepared ting Format
We affirm	that:										
1. We ha	ive comp	lied v	with the <i>Bull</i> e	etin for the A	udits of Local U	Units of Gov	vernment in Mic	higan as revise	ed.		
2. We ar	e certified	i put	olic accounta	ints registere	ed to practice in	n Michigan.					
We further comments				' responses	have been disc	closed in the	e financial state	ments, includir	ng the notes	s, or in	the report of
You must o	check the	арр	licable box fo	or each item	below.						
Yes	<b>√</b> No	1.	Certain com	nponent units	s/funds/agencie	es of the loo	cal unit are exclu	uded from the	financial st	atemer	nts.
Yes	<b>√</b> No	2.	There are a 275 of 1980		deficits in one	e or more c	of this unit's unr	eserved fund	balances/re	etained	earnings (P.
<b>√</b> Yes	☐ No	3.	There are amended).	instances of	non-compliand	ce with the	Uniform Acco	unting and Bu	udgeting Ac	t (P.A.	2 of 1968,
Yes	<b>√</b> No	4.					ther an order i jency Municipal		the Municip	al Fina	ance Act or
Yes	✓ No	5.					do not comply amended [MCI		requireme	nts. (P	A. 20 of 194
Yes	<b>√</b> No	6.	The local ur	nit has been	delinquent in d	listributing t	ax revenues tha	at were collecte	ed for anoth	er taxi	ng unit.
Yes	✓ No	7.	pension be	nefits (norma	al costs) in the	current ye	quirement (Artio ar. If the plan i t, no contributio	s more than 1	00% funde	d and	the overfundi
Yes	✓ No	8.	The local to		edit cards and	has not a	dopted an appli	icable policy a	as required	by P./	A. 266 of 19
Yes	✓ No	9.	The local u	nit has not a	dopted an inves	stment polic	cy as required b	y P.A. 196 of	1997 (MCL	129.95	).
We have	enclosed	l the	following:					Enclosed	To Be Forward		Not Required
The letter	of comm	ents	and recomn	nendations.					✓		
Reports o	n individu	ıal fe	ederal financ	ial assistanc	e programs (pr	ogram audi	ts).				✓
Single Au	dit Repor	ts (A	SLGU).								✓
Certified Pul			•						·		
Street Addre			& Whipple	PC			City Port Huron		State MI	ZIP 480	60
Accountant	Signature		· 113-		Ulmins		<u> </u>		Date <b>6/27/05</b>		

### **ALPENA COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION**

A Component Unit of Alpena County, Michigan

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS with SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004





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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alpena County Alpena, Michigan

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Road Commission of Alpena County, Michigan, a component unit of Alpena County, as of December 31, 2004 and for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Road Commission management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Road Commission of Alpena County, Michigan, as of December 31, 2004, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report, dated April 19, 2005, on our consideration of the Road Commission of Alpena County, Michigan's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting over compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The accompanying management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-6 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The schedules on pages 22-24 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements of the Road Commission of Alpena County, Michigan. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Stewast Beausant Whyspele
Certified Public Accountants

April 19, 2005

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

As management of the Alpena County Road Commission, we offer readers of these financial statements this narrative, overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Road Commission for the year ended December 31, 2004. This discussion and analysis is designed to assist the reader in focusing on the significant financial issues and activities and to identify any significant changes in financial position.

### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis is intended to provide a basis of understanding of the Alpena County Road Commission's basic financial statements. These basic financial statements comprise three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) governmental fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. Supplementary financial information is also provided for additional information purposes.

### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Alpena County Road Commission's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all of the Alpena County Road Commission's assets and liabilities, with the differences between the two reported as net assets. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Road Commission is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., unused vacation and sick).

### **Governmental Fund Financial Statements**

Unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds financial statements with similar information presented for government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near term financing decisions.

The Alpena County Road Commission adopts an annual appropriated budget for the operating fund. A budgetary comparison statement has been provided to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### **Government-wide Financial Analysis**

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. As shown on the chart below, the Road Commission's assets exceeded liabilities by \$29,754,750 at the end of the year. This is an increase of \$962,107 from December 31, 2003.

The net assets are separated into three major components, investment in capital assets which amounted to \$25,347,617 or 85% of net assets, restricted net assets of \$1,934,250 or 7% and finally unrestricted net assets of \$2,472,883 or 8%. The restricted net assets are the net assets that resulted from Primary Road activities and are restricted by the Michigan Department of Transportation to be used on the Primary Roads, and the restriction of Forest Funds. The investment in capital assets of the Road Commission reflects its investment in capital assets (i.e., land, buildings, vehicles, equipment and infrastructure). The Road Commission has no related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Road Commission uses the capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently these assets are not available for future spending. The remaining balance of unrestricted net assets may be used to meet the Road Commission's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current year, the Road Commission is able to report positive balances in all three categories (invested in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted net assets).

Because this is the second year of implementation of Governmental Accounting Standards Board No. 34, which requires this new reporting model, the following table presents current year data as well as the prior year data for comparative analysis.

### **Condensed Statement of Net Assets**

2004	2003
\$ 4,699,431	\$ 4,246,576
25,347,617	24,947,293
30,047,048	29,193,869
74.050	77.025
,	77,035
	324,191
<u>292,298</u>	401,226
25,347,617	24,947,293
1,934,250	1,038,631
2,472,883	2,806,719
\$ 29,754,750	\$ 28,792,643
	\$ 4,699,431 25,347,617 30,047,048 74,059 218,239 292,298 25,347,617 1,934,250 2,472,883

### **Condensed Statement of Activities**

	2004	2003
Revenues		
Intergovernmental -		
Permits	\$ 24,623	\$ 28,334
Federal Sources	427,886	972,071
State Sources	3,514,765	3,333,037
Local Sources	426,801	361,370
Charges for Services	595,098	532,768
Interest and rents	42,507	54,308
Other	156,821	37,172
	5,188,501	5,319,060
Expenses		
Maintenance	2,890,731	2,860,467
Administration	306,572	285,560
Equipment (net)	( 496,283)	( 567,365)
Depreciation	1,525,374	1,561,127
	4,226,394	4,139,789
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$ 962,107</u>	<u>\$ 1,179,271</u>

### **Financial Analysis of Governmental Fund Statements**

As noted earlier, the focus of the governmental fund financial statements is to provide information on the near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Road Commission's financing requirements. In particular, unreserved fund balance may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the year.

As of the end of the current year, the Road Commission reported an ending fund balance of \$4,324,797, an increase of \$500,089 from the prior year. Approximately 55% or \$2,390,547 of the fund balance constitutes unreserved fund balance, which is available for spending at the government's discretion. Approximately 45% or \$1,934,250 has been reserved for expenditures related to primary roads and forest funds as required by the Michigan Department of Transportation.

### **BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS**

The Road Commission amended its 2004 budget to reflect status changes in maintenance and heavy maintenance projects and an increase in capital outlay expenditures. The final budget was \$211,114 greater in revenues than the original budget basically as a result of greater motor vehicle highway funds than originally anticipated. The actual 2004 revenues were \$90,031 more than the amended budget mainly due to more motor vehicle highway funds than anticipated. The final budget was \$784,204 more in expenditures than the original budget as the result of shifting both primary and local heavy and to local and state as well as increasing capital outlay for equipment maintenance. The actual expenditures were \$5,347 more than the amended budget, which is only one-tenth of a percent.

### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

**Capital Assets -** The Road Commission had \$25,347,617 in capital assets at the end of the year. The reason for the increase from the previous year was the purchase of new shop equipment and the capitalization of heavy maintenance road and bridge projects funded by federal, state and local revenues.

A summary of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation at December 31, 2004 is as follows:

	2004	2003
Land and land improvements	\$ 9,385,402	\$ 9,013,241
Buildings	838,008	609,608
Equipment	830,009	821,505
Infrastructure	14,294,198	14,502,939
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$ 25,347,617</u>	<u>\$ 24,947,293</u>

### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The majority of Commission revenue streams are fairly stable. Long-term state fiscal crisis could, however, affect local abilities to provide increased levels of maintenance. Long-term crisis will affect cost sharing programs currently in effect with township transportation partners. The legislative proposal for the 4-cent per gallon diesel tax increase would help to improve resource allocations to maintenance and improvements. This proposal is still anticipating approval.

Our 2005 budget is programmed for revenues which are flat in most areas except for an increase in federal funding for road construction and a decrease in MTF revenues due to a legislative re-allocation and a decrease in license registration fees. Expenditures will increase in areas of road improvement areas, road equipment replacement and building improvements. Expenditures will exceed revenues during the year with a planned reduction of available operating funds. It is anticipated our fund equity will reduce by \$1,327,000 during 2005.

### CONTACTING THE ROAD COMMISSION MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Alpena County Road Commission's finances and to show accountability. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or request for additional financial information should be addressed to the Alpena County Road Commission, 1400 N. Bagley Street, Alpena, Michigan, 49707.

# **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET/STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS DECEMBER 31, 2004

	Go	overnmental Fund		Adjustments (Note 2)	tatement of Net Assets
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,118,488	\$	-	\$ 2,118,488
Investments		1,302,351		-	1,302,351
Due from other governmental units -					
Federal		-			-
State		646,977		-	646,977
Local		3,195		-	3,195
Special assessments receivable		148,731		-	148,731
Accounts receivable		5,546		-	5,546
Accrued interest		-		2,225	2,225
Prepaid expenditures/expenses		-		70,433	70,433
Inventory		401,485		_	401,485
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation					
Assets not being depreciated		-		9,385,407	9,385,407
Assets being depreciated		-		15,962,210	 15,962,210
Total Assets	\$	4,626,773	\$	25,420,275	\$ 30,047,048
LIABILITIES AND FUNI	EQI	U <b>ITY</b>			
Liabilities:					
Accounts payable	\$	56,924	\$	-	\$ 56,924
Accrued liabilities		20,621		-	20,621
Due to other governmental units		-		-	-
Deferred revenue		83,737	(	83,737)	-
Advances and deposits		140,694		_	140,694
Noncurrent liabilities -					
Due in more than one year		-		74,059	74,059
Total Liabilities		301,976	(	9,678)	292,298
Fund Balance:					
Fund Balance -					
Reserved -					
Primary roads		1,595,484	(	1,595,484)	_
Forest funds		338,766	(	338,766)	_
Unreserved -			`	,	_
Undesignated		2,390,547	(	2,390,547)	_
Total Fund Balance		4,324,797	(	4,324,797)	-
	Φ.			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$	4,626,773			
Net Assets:					
Invested in capital assets net of related debt Restricted -				25,347,617	25,347,617
Primary roads				1,934,250	1,934,250
Unrestricted				2,472,883	2,472,883
Total Net Assets			\$	29,754,750	\$ 29,754,750

See Notes to Financial Statements

# STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE/STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	Go	overnmental Fund	Adjustments (Note 2)		5	
Revenues:						
Permits	\$	24,623	\$	-	\$	24,623
Intergovernmental -						
Federal sources		427,886		-		427,886
State sources		3,514,765		-		3,514,765
Local sources		374,857		51,944		426,801
Charges for services		595,098		-		595,098
Interest and rents		42,507		-		42,507
Other		156,821		-		156,821
Total Revenues		5,136,557		51,944		5,188,501
Expenditures/Expenses:						
Current -						
Primary heavy maintenance		819,679	(	819,679)		-
Local heavy maintenance		529,450	(	529,450)		-
Primary maintenance		1,077,521	(	4,485)		1,073,036
Local maintenance		1,243,169	(	5,265)		1,237,904
State maintenance		579,791		-		579,791
Administrative - net		319,696	(	13,124)		306,572
Equipment		1,100,677	(	326,762)		773,915
Less equipment rental charged						
other activities	(	1,270,198)		-	(	1,270,198)
Depreciation		-		1,525,374		1,525,374
Capital Outlay		576,569	(	576,569)		-
Less depreciation credit	(	339,886)		339,886		-
Total Expenditures/Expenses		4,636,468	(	410,074)	_	4,226,394
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures/expenses		500,089		462,018		962,107
Fund Balance/Net Assets at January 1, 2004		3,824,708		24,967,935		28,792,643
Fund Balance/Net Assets at December 31, 2004	\$	4,324,797	\$	25,429,953	\$	29,754,750

See Notes to Financial Statements

# STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

		Original Budget		Amended Budget		Actual	Ame	riance with nded Budget Positive Negative)
Revenues:								
Permits	\$	20,000	\$	24,623	\$	24,623	\$	-
Intergovernmental -								
Federal sources		440,000		449,766		427,886	(	21,880)
State sources		3,196,045		3,433,041		3,514,765		81,724
Local sources		625,167		380,550		374,857	(	5,693)
Charges for services		444,500		579,672		595,098		15,426
Interest and rents		42,000		73,668		42,507	(	31,161)
Other		67,700		105,206		156,821		51,615
		4,835,412		5,046,526		5,136,557		90,031
Expenditures:								
Current -								
Primary heavy maintenance		1,223,988		843,376		819,679		23,697
Local heavy maintenance		1,021,959		532,227		529,450		2,777
Primary maintenance		1,161,609		1,091,230		1,077,521		13,709
Local maintenance		1,194,010		1,244,157		1,243,169		988
State maintenance		443,200		577,199		579,791	(	2,592)
Administrative		351,729		308,234		319,696	(	11,462)
Equipment - net	(	63,900)	(	189,319)	(	169,521)	(	19,798)
Capital Outlay - net		82,730		224,017		236,683	(	12,666)
Total Expenditures		5,415,325		4,631,121		4,636,468	(	5,347)
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(	579,913)		415,405		500,089		84,684
Fund Balance at January 1, 2004		3,824,708		3,824,708		3,824,708		
Fund Balance at December 31, 2004	\$	3,244,795	\$	4,240,113	\$	4,324,797	\$	84,684

See Notes to Financial Statements

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The accounting methods and procedures adopted by the Alpena County Road Commission conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental entities. The following Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of the Road Commission's financial statements.

### A. Description of Road Commission Operations -

The Alpena County Road Fund, referred to as the Road Commission, is a component unit of the County of Alpena, Michigan, and is used to control the expenditure of revenues from the State distribution of gas and weight taxes, federal financial assistance, reimbursements from the Department of State Highways for work performed by the County on State trunklines and contributions from other local units of government for work performed by the Road Commission work force. The Road Fund is the only fund of the Road Commission.

The Road Commission which is established pursuant to the County Road Law (MCL224.1) operates under an elected Board of three (3) County Road Commissioners who establish policies and review operations of the Road Commission. The Road Commission provides service to eight (8) Townships in Alpena County and maintains 660 miles of state, local and primary roads.

### B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation –

The government-wide financial statement columns (i.e., statement of net assets and statement of activities) are reported using the economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grant and similar items are recognized as revenues as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized when it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the year. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, expenditures relating to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

### C. Assets, Liabilities, and Fund Balance or Net Assets –

Cash and Cash Equivalents – Cash equivalents are short-term investments that are readily convertible to cash or have a maturity date of ninety days or less from the date of purchase. Investments represent certificates of deposit with maturity from date of purchase over ninety days and are recorded at cost which approximates fair value.

**Inventories -** Inventories of road materials and equipment parts are recognized using the consumption method (inventories are recorded as expenditures when they are used). Inventories are stated at the average cost which approximates market.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (cont'd):

**Prepaid Items** – Certain payments to vendors (particularly for insurance coverage) reflect costs that are applicable to a future period and are recorded as prepaid items.

Capital Assets – Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure are reported in the government-wide (statement of net assets) financial statements. Capital assets for land, buildings and improvements and all equipment except road equipment are defined by the Road Commission as assets estimated useful life in excess of 2 years. No minimum cost is used to record road equipment capital assets and infrastructure are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are recorded in the governmental fund statements as capital expenditures at the time of purchase.

Depreciation is computed on the sum-of-the-years digits method for road equipment, and straight-line method for all other capital assets over the estimated useful life of the related asset.

The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Buildings and Improvements40 yearsEquipment5- 8 yearsRoads8-30 yearsBridges25-50 yearsTraffic signals15 years

Infrastructure is reported retrospectively from 1980, except for right-of-ways, bridges, and traffic signals which are required to be reported despite the date of purchase. Roads are removed from the capital assets at the time the group of individually recorded roads have been fully depreciated.

Depletion is calculated as the amount of prorated cost or other indicated value assigned to the extracted portion of a natural resource (gravel).

The Uniform Accounting Procedures Manual for Michigan County Road Commissions provides for recording depreciation and depletion in the governmental fund statements as a charge to various expenditures accounts, and a credit to a depreciation/depletion credit account. Accordingly, the annual depreciation/depletion expenditures do not affect the available operating equity of the governmental fund statements.

**Accrued Vacation Pay** – In accordance with contracts negotiated with the various employee groups, individual employees have vested rights upon termination of employment to receive payments for unused vacation leave under formulas and conditions specified in the contract. All amounts vested are accrued in the government-wide statements (statement of net assets).

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **DECEMBER 31, 2004**

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – (cont'd):

**Deferred Revenues** – In both the government-wide and the governmental fund financial statements revenue received or recorded before earned is recorded as deferred revenue. In addition, in the governmental fund statements revenues that are not both measurable and available are recorded as deferred revenues.

Advances From The State of Michigan – The State of Michigan advances funds on a State maintenance agreement it has with the Alpena County Road Commission for specified maintenance which the Road Commission will perform during the year and for equipment purchased and used in performance of the specified maintenance. These advances are considered current liabilities because they are subject to repayment annually upon audit by the State of Michigan.

Equipment Rentals – The Michigan Department of Transportation requires that the cost of operating equipment, including depreciation, be allocated to the various activities. The effect of this allocation is offset to equipment expenditures/expenses.

Estimates - In preparing financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### NOTE 2 - RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL **STATEMENTS:**

A. Explanation of differences between the governmental fund statement and the governmentwide statement of net assets (Page 8).

Fund Balance – governmental fund	\$ 4	,324,797
Capital assets used in the governmental		
fund activities that are not financial resources		
and therefore not reported in the		
governmental fund financial statements		
Add – capital assets	38	3,884,154
Deduct – accumulated depreciation	(13	3,536,537)
Long-term liabilities that are not due in the		
current period therefore not reported in		
the governmental fund statements	(	74,059)

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

# NOTE 2 - RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – (cont'd):

Prepaid expenses not reported in the governmental fund statements	\$	70,433
Accrued interest not reported in the governmental fund statements		2,225
Revenues that have been deferred in the governmental fund statements because they are not "available"		83,737
Net Assets	\$ 2	29,754,750

**B.** Explanation of differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance and the government-wide statement of activities (Page 8).

Excess of revenues over expenditures - governmental fund statement	\$	500,089
The governmental fund statements report capital outlay as expenditures, however, in the government-wide Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense		
Add – capital outlay and infrastructure Deduct – depreciation		,925,698 ,525,374)
Revenues are deferred in the governmental fund statements because they do not provide current financial resources that are reported		
in the government-wide Statement of Activities		52,957
Accrued interest adjustment not reported in the governmental fund statements	(	1,013)
Prepaid expense adjustment not reported in the governmental fund statements		6,774
Accrued vacation and sick time expenses not reported in the governmental fund statements because they will not be paid with current		
financial resources		2,976
Change in Net Assets	<u>\$</u>	962,107

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### NOTE 3 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY:

### Auditing and Reporting -

The audit was performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States as described in the Independent Auditor's Report, but, also with the standards as provided in Act No. 71 of Public Acts of 1919, Section 21.41 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as described in the Independent Auditor's Report, but also with applicable rules of the Michigan State Department of Transportation.

### **Budgetary Compliance –**

The Road Commission Chief Financial Officer prepares from data submitted by the administrative staff, a proposed operating budget for the calendar year commencing January 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and resources to finance them.

The budget for the General Operating Fund is adopted on the modified accrual basis which is consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Prior to December 31, the proposed budget is presented to the Board of County Road Commissioners. The Board holds a public hearing and may add to, subtract from or change appropriations. The budget is legally enacted through passage of a Board of County Road Commissioners Resolution. After the budget is adopted, the Chief Finance Officer is authorized to transfer amounts between items of the adopted budget at year end to reflect the effects of the distribution of the distributive account. All other amendments to the budget must have direct approval of the Board of County Road Commissioners.

The Road Commission's approved budget was adopted at the expenditure control level by activity. This is the legally-enacted level under the State of Michigan Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act and the level requiring approval by the Board of County Road Commissioners.

The Road Commission does not employ encumbrance accounting as an extension of formal budgetary integration. All annual appropriations lapse at year end.

Expenditures at these legally adopted levels in excess of the amount budgeted are a violation of the Budgeting Act. During the year ended December 31, 2004, the Road Commission had three expenditures over budget as reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances – Budget and Actual.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS:**

The Uniform Accounting Procedures Manual for Michigan County Road Commissions provides that the County Treasurer maintain the cash of the Road Commission. All Road Commission receipts are deposited with the Alpena County Treasurer's Office, and in order to make disbursements, the Alpena County Road Commission requests the County Treasurer to transfer the required funds to an imprest vendor or payroll checking account. Also, in order to invest cash, a request is made of the County Treasurer.

In accordance with Act 20 PA 1943, as amended by Act 196 PA 1997, the County Treasurer is authorized to invest Road Commission surplus funds in the following types of investments:

- a) In bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States or an agency or instrumentality of the United States.
- b) In certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts or depository receipts of a financial institution, but only if the financial institution is eligible to be a depository of surplus funds belonging to the State under Section 5 or 6 of Act No. 105 of the Public Acts of 1855, as amended, being section 21.145 and 21.146 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.
- c) In commercial paper rated at the time of purchase within the two (2) highest classifications established by not less than two (2) standard rating services and which matures not more than 270 days after the date of purchase.
- d) In the United States government or federal agency obligations repurchase agreements.
- e) In bankers acceptances of United States banks.
- f) In obligations of the State of Michigan or any of the political subdivisions that at the time of purchase are rated as investment grade by not less than one standard rating service.
- g) In mutual funds registered under the investment company Act of 1940, with the authority to purchase only investment vehicles that are legal for direct investment by a public corporation.
- h) In investment pools organized under the surplus funds investment act, 367 of 1982.
- i) In investment pools organized under the local government investment pool act, 121 of 1985.

### **Deposits** -

As a component unit of the Alpena County, all Road Commission cash is part of the accounts maintained by Alpena County. However, the Road Commission by State statute has funds allocated to it by the State of Michigan for its exclusive use and control. As a result, funds of the Road Commission have separate insurance coverage.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – (cont'd):**

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) regulations provide that deposits of governmental units are to be separately insured for the amount of \$100,000 for deposits in an insured bank for savings deposits and \$100,000 for demand deposits. Furthermore, if specific deposits are regulated by statute or bond indenture, these specific deposits are to be separately insured for the amount of \$100,000.

As of December 31, 2004, the carrying amount of the Road Commission's deposits is \$3,420,639, and the bank balance is \$3,497,957. The bank balance is classified by credit risk as follows:

Demand accounts - insured by FDIC	\$	100,000
Demand accounts - uninsured and uncollateralized		2,095,606
Certificates of deposit - insured by FDIC		100,000
Certificates of deposit - uninsured and uncollateralized	_	1,202,351
	\$	3 /107 057

The caption cash and cash equivalents on the Balance Sheet also includes \$200 in petty cash.

The County believes that due to the dollar amounts of cash deposits and the limits of FDIC insurance it is impractical to insure all bank deposits. As a result, the County evaluates each financial institution and assesses the level of risk. The County uses only those financial institutions with an acceptable estimated risk level as depositories.

### NOTE 5 - SUBDIVISION STREET PAVING AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM:

The amount due on Special Assessments of \$148,731 at December 31, 2004, represents the amount due on four subdivision street paving and improvement programs. The amount of \$49,075 is due from a township at large with the balance of \$99,656 due from property owners.

### **NOTE 6 - FEDERAL AWARDS:**

It is required by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) that Road Commissions report total federal awards for Highway Research, Planning and Construction pertaining to their County. However, only the federal awards applicable to force account expenditures is required to be audited for compliance under the Single Audit Act through Road Commission procurement. The reason for this requirement is that the Road Commission is required to have accounting and administrative control over the force account portion while the balance is administered by MDOT.

During the year ended December 31, 2004, the Road Commission of Alpena County had less than \$500,000 of applicable federal awards for local force expenditures. As result, an audit for compliance under the Single Audit Act is not required.

The federal revenues of \$427,886 represent the Department of Transportation Federal Highway grant money expended on public road improvement projects which were administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation, however, are required to be reported by the Road Commission.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS:**

Capital assets activity for the current year was as follows:

	Balance January 1, 2003	Additions	Deletions	Removals	Balance December 31, 2004
Capital Assets, not being depreciated –					
Land	\$ 23,080	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,080
Land improvements	8,920,841	372,161	-	-	9,293,002
Right of Ways	69,320	5	_	-	69,325
Total Capital Assets, not being					
depreciated	9,013,241	372,166	<del>_</del>		9,385,407
Capital Assets, being depreciated -	-				
Buildings and improvements	1,206,266	254,421	_	-	1,460,687
Road Equipment	3,827,990	321,968	220,169	-	3,929,789
Shop Equipment	142,136	-	-	-	142,136
Office Equipment	131,357	180	-	-	131,537
Engineering equipment	57,719	-	-	-	57,719
Yard and storage	204,365	-	-	-	204,365
Infrastructure -					
Roads	19,040,960	956,999	-	535,400	19,462,559
Bridges	3,918,925	19,964	-	-	3,938,889
Traffic signals	24,831	-	-	-	24,831
Depletable assets –					
Gravel pits	146,235		<u> </u>		146,235
	28,700,784	1,553,532	220,169	535,400	29,498,747
Less – accumulated depreciation for	or –				
Buildings and improvements	596,658	26,021	_	-	622,679
Road Equipment	3,186,474	280,428	220,169	-	3,246,733
Shop Equipment	63,022	9,500	-	-	72,522
Office Equipment	101,527	8,633	-	-	110,160
Engineering Equipment	38,975	4,491	_	-	43,466
Yard and Storage	151,843	10,813	_	-	162,656
Infrastructure –					
Roads	7,200,508	1,103,099	-	535,400	7,768,207
Bridges	1,263,764	80,733	-	-	1,344,497
Traffic signals	17,505	1,656	-	-	19,161
Depletable Assets	146,456				146,456
	12,766,732	1,525,374	220,169	535,400	13,536,537
Total Capital Assets, being					
depreciated, net	15,934,052	28,158			15,962,210
Governmental activity capital					
assets, net	<u>\$ 24,947,293</u>	\$ 400,324	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$25,347,617</u>

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **NOTE 8 - GENERAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:**

The following is a summary of the changes in long-term liabilities of the Road Commission for the year ended December 31, 2004:

	В	Balance					Balance		
	Ja	anuary 1,					December 31,		
		2004	Additions		Reductions		2004		
Accrued vacation	\$	77,035	\$ -	. \$	3 2.97	6 \$	5 74,059		

Significant details regarding outstanding long-term liabilities are presented below:

### **Accrued Vacation -**

In accordance with contracts negotiated with the various employee groups of the Road Commission, employees have a vested right upon termination to receive compensation for accumulated vacation leave under formulas and conditions specified in the contracts. The dollar amounts of these vested rights which have been accrued on the financial statements amounts to approximately \$74,059 at December 31, 2004.

### **NOTE 9 - EMPLOYEE PENSION PLAN:**

### Plan Description -

The Alpena County Road Commission participates in the Michigan Municipal Employees' Retirement System (MERS); an agent multiple employer state-wide, public employee defined benefit pension plan created under Public Act 135 of 1945, and now operates under Public Act 220 of 1996, and the MERS Plan Document as revised. MERS was established to provide retirement, survivor and disability benefits on a voluntary basis to the State of Michigan's local government employees. Act No. 427 of the Public Acts of 1984, as amended, establishes and amends the benefit provisions of the participants in MERS. The Municipal Employees' Retirement System of Michigan issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for MERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan, 447 N. Canal Road, Lansing, Michigan 48917 or by calling (800) 767-6377.

### **Funding Policy -**

The Road Commission is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate; the computed employer contribution average rate for 2004 was 11.29%. The contribution requirements of plan members and the Road Commission are established and may be amended by the Road Commission, depending on the MERS contribution program adopted by the Road Commission.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### NOTE 9 - EMPLOYEE PENSION PLAN - (cont'd):

### **Annual Pension Costs -**

For the year ended December 31, 2004, the Road Commission's annual pension cost of \$144,288 for MERS was equal to the Road Commission's required and actual contributions. The required contribution was determined as part of the December 31, 2001 actuarial valuation using the entry age actuarial cost method. The actuarial assumptions include (a) a rate of return on the investment of present and future assets of 8% per year compounded annually, (b) projected salary increases of 4.5% per year compounded annually, attributable to inflation, (c) additional projected salary increases ranging from 0% to 4.16% per year, depending on age, attributable to seniority/merit, and (d) the assumption that benefits will increase 2.5% per year (annually) after retirement, for persons under Benefit E-1 or E-2. The actuarial value of MERS assets was determined on a basis of evaluation method that assumes the funds earn the expected rate of return (8%) and includes as an adjustment to reflect market value. Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities are amortized as a level percent of payroll over the remaining period of 30 years.

### **Three-Year Trend Information**

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,	Ending Annual Pension		Net Pension Obligation		
2002	\$134,298	100%	\$	-	
2003 2004	125,731 144,288	100 100		-	

### **Schedule of Funding Progress**

		Actuarial	Unfunded			
	Actuarial	Accrued	(Overfunded)	Funded		UAAL
Actuarial	Value of	Liability	Accrued Liability	Ratio	Covered	as a % of
Valuation	Assets	(AAL) Entry Ag	ge (UAAL)	(AAL)	Payroll	Covered Payroll
<u>Date</u>	<u>(a)</u>	<u>(b)</u>	<u>(b-a)</u>	<u>(a/b)</u>	<u>(c)</u>	[(b-a)/c]
2001	\$6,787,925	\$7,094,774	\$306,849	96	\$1,241,996	25%
2002	6,810,538	7,441,906	631,368	92	1,327,286	48
2003	7,127,445	7,764,676	637,231	92	1,265,608	50

### **NOTE 10 - POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:**

In addition to the pension benefits described in Note 9, the Alpena County Road Commission provides postemployment health care to eligible employees who retire from the Road Commission between the ages of 60 and 65. At 65 and above, the Road Commission also contributes \$67 towards the cost of Medicare. Expenditures for post-employment health care benefits are recognized on a pay-as-you-go basis. For the year ended December 31, 2004 these costs amounted to approximately \$24,748 with 18 eligible participants.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### NOTE 11 - SUMMARY OF DISCLOSURE OF SIGNIFICANT CONTINGENCIES:

The Road Commission participates in a number of agreements with the State of Michigan by which the Road Commission receives advances and reimbursements per the agreements. These advances and reimbursements are subject to audit by the State of Michigan. The amounts, if any, which may have to be paid back to the State cannot be determined at this time, although the Road Commission expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

There are various legal actions pending against the Road Commission. Due to the inconclusive nature of many of the actions, it is not possible to determine the probable outcome or a reasonable estimate of the Road Commission potential liability, if any. The potential liability from legal actions, if any, is considered to be immaterial to the Road Commission.

### **NOTE 12 - ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS:**

Advances of \$140,694 at December 31, 2004, are advanced by the State of Michigan for working capital and equipment purchases under a road maintenance contract the Road Commission has with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Both advances are adjusted annually by the State and must be repaid if the maintenance contract is canceled. The following is a summary of the balance at December 31, 2004:

State -

Trunkline maintenance	\$ 40,116
Equipment	100,578
	 140,694

### **NOTE 13 - RISK MANAGEMENT:**

The Road Commission is a member of the Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool. The "Pool" established pursuant to the laws of the State of Michigan authorizes contracts between municipal corporations (inter-local agreements) to form group self-insurance pools, and to prescribe conditions to the performance of these contracts.

The Michigan County Road Commission Self-Insurance Pool was established for the purpose of making a self-insurance pooling program available for Michigan County Road Commission, which includes, but is not limited to, general liability coverages, auto liability coverages, property insurance coverages, stop-loss insurance protection, claims administration, and risk management and loss control services pursuant to Michigan Public Act 138 of 1982.

The Alpena County Road Commission pays an annual premium to the Pool for property (buildings and grounds) coverage, automobile liability, errors or omissions liability and bodily injury, property damage and personal injury liability. The agreement for the formation of the Pool provides that the Pool will be self-sustaining through member premiums and will purchase both specific and aggregate stop-loss insurance to the limits determined necessary by the Pool Board.

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS DECEMBER 31, 2004

### **NOTE 13 - RISK MANAGEMENT – (cont'd):**

The Road Commission is also a member of the County Road Association Self-Insurance Fund for workers' compensation self-insurance. The fund is a municipal self-insurance entity operating within the laws of the State of Michigan. The fund has entered into reinsurance agreements providing for loss coverage in excess of amounts to be retained by the Fund.

The Road Commission continues to carry commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance. The amount of settlement claims for the last three years has not exceeded insurance coverage.

### **NOTE 14 - EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURE CREDIT BALANCE:**

The Road Commission, in compliance with the Uniform Accounting Procedures Manual for Michigan County Road Commissions, charges rental on Road Commission equipment used for various construction and maintenance projects performed by the Road Commission. The cost for this rental, which is based on a rental rate per hour established by the Michigan Department of Transportation multiplied by rental hours, is reported as an expenditure in the various maintenance activities. An expenditure credit is reported as an offset against the equipment expenditure activities. Accordingly, the equipment rental does not affect total expenditures or the available operating equity of the Road Commission's General Operating Fund. The credit balance is the result of the equipment rental charged exceeding actual equipment expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2004 as follows:

	Governmental Fund	Statement of Activities		
Equipment –				
Direct	\$ 695,122	\$ 414,694		
Indirect	260,406	214,072		
Operating	145,149	145,149		
	1,100,677	773,915		
Less-equipment rental	( 1,270,198)	(1,270,198)		
	\$( 169.521)	\$( 496,283)		

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

# DETAIL SCHEDULE OF REVENUES GENERAL OPERATING FUND FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

enues:	2004	2003
Permits -	\$ 24,623	\$ 28,33
Federal Sources -		
Federal STP program	427,861	794,22
Federal aid bridge	25	24,09
Federal high priority	-	81,13
FEMA and emergency relief	-	72,62
	427,886	972,0
State Sources -		
Motor Vehicle Highway Funds - Act 51 -		
Engineering	10,000	10,00
Primary roads	2,232,188	2,057,89
Local roads	1,022,835	980,0
Urban roads	177,776	184,1
Snow removal	26,024	25,3
Economic Development Fund	45,942	71,0
Critical bridge		4,5
	3,514,765	3,333,0
Local Sources -		•
Township and city contributions	361,152	391,7
County	13,705	
Private		1,5
	374,857	393,2
Charges for Services -		
Trunkline maintenance & nonmaintenance	592,725	531,2
Salvage sales	2,373	1,5
	595,098	532,7
Interest and rents	42,507	51,7
Other -		
Land and building sales	-	2,3
Gain on equipment disposal	18,232	
Special assessments	94,243	31,9
Other	44,346	2,8
	156,821	37,1
Revenues	\$ 5,136,557	\$ 5,348,40

# DETAIL SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES GENERAL OPERATING FUND FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004 AND 2003

	2004	2003
Expenditures:		
Heavy Maintenance -		
Primary roads and structures	\$ 819,679	\$ 1,458,757
Local roads and structures	529,450	504,367
	1,349,129	1,963,124
Maintenance -		
Primary roads and structures,		
winter and traffic control	1,077,521	1,161,335
Local roads and structures,		
winter and traffic control	1,243,169	1,197,652
	2,320,690	2,358,987
State Maintenance -		
Trunkline maintenance	537,822	481,514
Trunkline nonmaintenance	41,969	21,966
	579,791	503,480
Equipment -		
Direct	695,122	675,164
Indirect	260,406	286,232
Operating	145,149	123,969
Less - equipment rental	( 1,270,198)	( 1,260,345)
	( 169,521)	( 174,980)
Administrative -		
Administration	385,478	352,204
Less - overhead	( 62,569)	( 48,828)
- purchase discounts	( 3,213)	( 3,198)
	319,696	300,178
Capital Outlay -		
Equipment	576,569	68,931
Less - depreciation and depletion	( 339,886)	( 406,939)
	236,683	( 338,008)
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,636,468	\$ 4,612,781

# SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BY FUND BALANCE SUB-ACCOUNTS GENERAL OPERATING FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004

	Primary		Local		County		Total	
Revenues:								
Permits -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	24,623	\$	24,623
Intergovernmental -								
Federal Sources	42	7,861		25		-		427,886
State Sources	2,35	7,323		1,157,442		-		3,514,765
Local Sources		-		374,857		-		374,857
Charges for services		-		-		595,098		595,098
Interest		-		-		42,507		42,507
Other		-		94,243		62,578		156,821
Total Revenues	2,785	5,184		1,626,567		724,806		5,136,557
Expenditures:								
Heavy Maintenance	810	9,679		529,450		_		1,349,129
Maintenance		7,521		1,243,169		_		2,320,690
State maintenance	1,07	-		-		579,791		579,791
Equipment - net	( 5'	7,027)	(	77,590)	(	34,904)	(	169,521)
Administrative-net	,	5,274	(	154,422	(	-	(	319,696
Capital outlay - net	10.	-		-		236,683		236,683
Total Expenditures	2.00	5,447		1,849,451		781,570		4,636,468
Total Expenditures		3,117		1,0 10, 101		701,570		1,050,100
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	779	9,737	(	222,884)	(	56,764)		500,089
before optional transfers								
Optional Transfers	( 222	2,884)		222,884				
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	550	6,853		-	(	56,764)		500,089
Fund Balance at beginning of year	1,038	8,631				2,786,077		3,824,708
Fund Balance at end of year	\$ 1,595	5,484	\$	-	\$	2,729,313	\$	4,324,797







# REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alpena County Alpena, Michigan

We have audited the financial statements of Alpena County Road Commission as of and for the year ended December 31, 2004, and have issued our report thereon, dated April 19, 2005. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

### **Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Alpena County Road Commission's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weakness. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Alpena County Road Commission's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Board of County Road Commissioners of Alpena County, Michigan and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Stewast Beausant Whysple
Certified Public Accountants

April 19, 2005